

Amendments to the Claims

Without prejudice, this listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A universal lottery ticket, which can be used to participate in any one of a plurality of lottery-type drawing events, the ticket comprising:

a substrate, having an obverse and a reverse side;

a plurality of playing game pieces, which are disposed on the obverse side of the lottery ticket in at least one array, the at least one array including a plurality of panels, the plurality of panels including a number of playing game pieces; and

a removable material having a surface, wherein the removable material is disposed over the plurality of playing game pieces so as to conceal the plurality of game pieces, wherein a plurality of unique indicia is disposed on the surface of the removable material so that the plurality of unique indicia corresponds to the plurality of panels;

instructions for using the lottery ticket in conjunction with at least two types a plurality of lottery-type drawing events, wherein the instructions for each type of drawing event are disposed on the reverse side of the ticket;

a playing life of the lottery ticket, wherein the playing life includes a plurality of drawing events where the lottery ticket can be played.

2. (Previously Cancelled)

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10. (Previously Cancelled)
11. (Previously Cancelled)
12. (Previously Cancelled)
13. (Previously Cancelled)
14. (Currently Amended) A method of playing a lottery game, the game being played by a plurality of participants, each participant having at least one lottery ticket, ~~said at least one~~ the method comprising:
receiving a lottery ticket comprising a plurality of concealed playing game pieces disposed in at least one array comprising a plurality of panels;
~~the method comprising:~~
selecting receiving a first drawing designation that designates
some but not all of the plurality of panels as a playing panel for ~~each~~ the
game;
revealing a plurality of playing game pieces disposed on the at least
~~one~~ lottery ticket, wherein said plurality of playing game pieces includes those
concealed playing game pieces that are disposed beneath the ~~selected~~
designated plurality of panels;
after receiving the lottery ticket, receiving a first random selection of
~~randomly selecting a~~ plurality of winning game pieces, wherein the first

random selection of the plurality of winning game pieces is external to the lottery ticket; and

determining whether ~~any of the at least one lottery ticket~~ ticket ~~tickets~~ is a winning lottery ticket.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein at least three of the plurality of panels ~~is~~ are selected as the playing panel for each game.

16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15, wherein three panels are selected as the playing panel for each game.

17. (Original) The method as recited in claim 12, wherein four panels are selected as the playing panel for each game.

18. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15, wherein said at least three panels selected as the playing panel for each game comprises consecutive panels.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim ~~14~~ 44, wherein the plurality of playing game pieces are revealed by removing a removable material that is disposed over so as to conceal said plurality of playing game pieces.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the method further comprises ~~the further steps of:~~

designating a unique sub-population of playing game pieces selected from a total population of playing game pieces so that each unique sub-population of playing game pieces is disposed as the playing game pieces in only one of the plurality of panels;

authenticating the validity of the lottery ticket; and
awarding a prize for each winning game ticket.

21. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein the number of winning game pieces selected is equal to the number of playing game pieces revealed.

22. (Original) The method as recited in claim 20, wherein some but not all of the plurality of winning game pieces are selected from each of the unique subpopulations of playing game pieces designated for each of the plurality of panels selected.

23. (Original) The method as recited in claim 22, wherein the number of winning game pieces selected from each of the unique sub-populations of playing game pieces is equal to the number of playing game pieces revealed in each of the corresponding panels.

24. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein a lottery ticket is a winning lottery ticket if a combination of winning game pieces matches a combination of revealed playing game pieces in the playing panel so that at least three of the revealed playing game pieces adjoin horizontally, vertically or diagonally to form at least one line.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A lottery game, the game being played by a plurality of participants, the game comprising:

a plurality of lottery tickets, wherein each of said plurality of lottery tickets includes:

a substrate, having an obverse and a reverse side;

a plurality of playing game pieces, which are disposed on the obverse side of the lottery ticket in at least one array, the at least one array including a plurality of panels, the plurality of panels including a number of playing game pieces; and

a removable material, having a surface, that is disposed over so as to conceal the plurality of playing game pieces, wherein a plurality of unique indicia is disposed on the surface of the removable material so that the plurality of unique indicia corresponds to the plurality of panels;

a first drawing event designation, wherein the first drawing event designation designates a subset of the plurality of panels to be played;

a random selection device external to the lottery ticket, wherein said random selection device selects a plurality of winning game pieces after the participant has received the lottery ticket.

27. (Currently Amended) The lottery game as recited in claim 26, wherein the first drawing event designation comprises a unique combination of playing panels that comprise at least three of the plurality of panels, the playing game pieces of which are revealed by removing the removable material.

28. (Original) The lottery game as recited in claim 27, wherein the at least three of the plurality of panels are consecutive panels.

29. (Currently Amended) The lottery game as recited in claim 27, wherein the first drawing event designation comprises a unique combination of three playing panels.

30. (Currently Amended) The lottery game as recited in claim 27, wherein the first drawing event designation comprises a unique combination of four playing panels.

31. (Original) The lottery game as recited in claim 26, wherein a prize is awarded for any lottery ticket that is a winning lottery ticket.

32. (Original) The lottery game as recited in claim 31, wherein a lottery ticket is a winning lottery ticket if a combination of winning game pieces matches at least one combination of revealed playing game pieces in the plurality of panels so that at least three of the revealed playing game pieces adjoin horizontally, vertically or diagonally to form at least one line.

33. (Currently Amended) The lottery game as recited in claim 26, wherein the game further comprises a means for authenticating the lottery ticket after a ~~each~~ drawing event.

34. (Currently Amended) A method for playing a game of chance, comprising:

receiving a game ticket, wherein the game ticket includes: a substrate having an obverse and a reverse side; a plurality of playing game pieces, which are disposed on the obverse side in an array, the array including a plurality of panels, ~~the plurality of panels~~, the plurality of panels including a number of playing game pieces; and a removable material having a surface that is disposed over so as to conceal the plurality of playing game pieces, wherein ~~the~~ a plurality of unique indicia is disposed on the surface of the removable material so that the plurality of unique indicia corresponds to the plurality of panels;

receiving a first drawing event designation, wherein the first drawing event designation includes a designation of a subset of the plurality of panels to be used in game play;

receiving a selection of a plurality of winning game pieces after a participant has received a game ticket, wherein the selection of the winning game pieces is external to the game ticket.

35. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 34, wherein the plurality of playing game pieces comprises a series of integers.

36. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 34, wherein the number of playing game pieces in the plurality of panels is at least three.

37. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 36, wherein the number of playing game pieces in the plurality of panels is three.

38. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 36, wherein the number of playing game pieces in the plurality of panels is four.

39. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 34 further comprising:

revealing all of the plurality of playing game pieces disposed under a combination of playing panels, said combination of playing panels including some but not all of the plurality of panels, wherein said combination of playing panels is unique to each drawing event of a plurality of lottery-type drawing events.

40. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 39, wherein all of the plurality of playing game pieces disposed in at least three of the plurality of panels are revealed.

41. (Currently Amended) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 40 44, wherein the at least three of the plurality of panels are consecutive.

42. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as, recited in claim 41, wherein all of the plurality of playing game pieces disposed in three of the plurality of panels are revealed.

43. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 41, wherein all of the plurality of playing game pieces disposed in four of the plurality of panels are revealed.

44. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 34, wherein one or more of the plurality of game pieces comprises a free space.

45. (Currently Amended) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 34, the method further comprising:

receiving instructions for using the game ticket in conjunction with at least two types ~~any one of a plurality~~ of lottery-type drawing events, wherein the instructions are disposed on the reverse side of the ticket;

providing a name of a lottery-type event on the game ticket;

providing a day of the week and time during which the lottery-type drawing event takes place;

providing an indicia of ownership and intellectual property rights of an owner or sponsor of the game;

indicating a playing life of the game ticket, wherein the playing life includes a range of lottery-type drawing event dates where the game ticket may be played; and

providing a means for authenticating the game ticket.

46. (Previously Presented) The method for playing a game as recited in claim 45, wherein providing the means for authenticating the game ticket is selected from a group consisting of:

concealing a validation symbol that is disposed on the game ticket, wherein the plurality of panels is associated with a unique verification symbol that is revealed along with the playing game pieces;

coding a validation symbol comprising a plurality of lines of varying thickness that can be read by a reader; wherein said coded validation symbol is unique to the game ticket; and

providing a batch control number.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 further comprising: selecting a plurality of winning game pieces.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 further comprising: awarding a prize based on the number of winning lines on the game ticket.

49. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating a game of chance comprising:

providing a game ticket, wherein the game ticket includes

a substrate, having an obverse and a reverse side;

a plurality of playing game pieces, which are disposed on the obverse side of the lottery ticket in an array, the array including a plurality of panels, the plurality of panels including a number of playing game pieces, and a removable material having a surface, wherein the removable material is disposed over the plurality of playing game pieces so as to conceal the

plurality of playing game pieces, wherein a plurality of unique indicia is disposed on the surface of the removable material so that the plurality of unique indicia corresponds to the plurality of panels;

providing a first drawing event designation, wherein the first drawing event designation includes a designation of the panels to be used in game play;

randomly selecting of plurality of winning game pieces after the game ticket is provided, wherein the random selection is external to the game ticket.

50. (New) The method of playing the lottery game of claim 14, wherein determining whether any of the at least one lottery tickets is a winning lottery ticket includes determining a number of winning lines on the lottery ticket

51. (New) The method of playing the lottery game of claim 50 further comprising:

awarding a prize for the winning lottery ticket, wherein the prize increase in value as a function of the number of winning lines.

52. (New) The method of playing the lottery game of claim 26 further comprising:

a second drawing event designation, wherein the second drawing event designation designates a second subset of the plurality of panels for play, wherein the second subset of the plurality of panels are distinct from the subset of panels designated in the first drawing event designation.

53. (New) The method of playing the lottery game of claim 34 further comprising:

receiving a second drawing event designation, wherein the second drawing event designation designates a second subset of the plurality panels for play, wherein the second subset of the plurality of panels are distinct from the subset of panels designated in the first drawing event designation.

54. (New) The method for playing the game of chance of claim 34 wherein receiving a selection of a plurality of winning game pieces includes a receiving a selection event designation, wherein the the selection event designation designates at least one event to select the plurality of winning game pieces.

55. (New) The method for facilitating the game of chance of claim 49 further comprising:

providing a second drawing event designation, wherein the second drawing event designation designates a second subset of the plurality panels for play, wherein the second subset of the plurality of panels are distinct from the subset of panels designated in the first drawing event designation.

56. (New) The method for facilitating the game of chance of claim 49 further comprising:

providing a selection device to select a plurality of winning game pieces.

57. (New) The method for facilitating the game of chance of claim 49 further comprising:

providing a selection event designation, wherein the selection event designation designates at least one event to select the plurality of winning game pieces.

58. (New) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

receiving a second drawing designation;

after receiving the lottery ticket, receiving a second random selection of a plurality of winning game pieces, wherein the second random selection is external to the lottery ticket;

determining if the lottery ticket is a winner based on the first random selection the plurality of game pieces;

determining if the lottery ticket is a winner based on the second random selection of the plurality of game pieces; and

receiving a prize if the lottery ticket is a winner.